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**Homer B. Hulbert, A. M., F. R. G. S. Editor.**

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THE  
KOREA REVIEW.

APRIL, 1905.

The Making of Pottery.

One need only visit a Korean home with its endless array of crocks from the size of oil cruets up to those that figure most largely in stories as the favorite place for concealment until the appropriate moment for boldly proclaiming one's presence, to realize that if pottery is not a fine art, as practiced in this land, it is at least a necessary industry. Before describing the various stages in the development of a "pot" it may be interesting to remark that however primitive the implement used, and however obsolete the methods, the underlying principle seems to be the same in Korea as in the most advanced lands—whether it be the making of paper, the smelting of ore, the making of rope, the knitting of net, the weaving of goods, or the burning of charcoal. As the natives are rather astonished that we who come from so distant a country walk on two legs, wear clothes, and have two eyes, so I must acknowledge a little surprise in observing such an identity of principle in these various branches of industry here and at home. Though apparently limited to a single formula, necessity seems to discover it in due time to all people. In the pottery business the first thing is to find a suitable field of operation. I don't know that proximity to markets or facility of transportation plays any part in this. But there must at least be clay. The firing kiln or oven is built upon the side of a hill, presumably for ease of construction, since the greater

degree of perpendicularity the greater the draft, and if proper clay can be found on the same hill, the coincidence is no doubt appreciated, as the Koreans like work no more than the rest of us, especially unnecessary work. It sometimes happens, however, that the clay must be brought from some distance. It is first worked over in the same original style in which the earliest people seem to have trodden out the wine. Afterwards it is sliced off with a kind of sickle. These thin sheets help in discovering any small stones, and also enable a closer working of the clay. For the shaping of the vessel a double-decked wheel or disk is used, in shape not unlike their drums. This revolves on a pivot after the manner of a revolving book-case, the lower base affording space for propulsion by the foot while the clay is worked to proper form on the surface of the upper disk. The diameter of this disk is sufficient to afford good base room for the particular vessel desired. First there is sprinkled some loose dry sand to serve for gentle release when the vessel is completed. Upon this is coiled in a hollow circle like the hair on top of a woman's head, or a black snake on top of an old stump, sufficient clay for an ordinary sized vessel. As the wheel revolves gentle pressure is brought to bear with the hand, encased in a wet rag, making the clay taller and thinner at the same time giving it shape and uniform thickness and smoothness of surface. The connection with the wheel is then made clean by the application of a sharp stick or graver, as the disk revolves; when, by reason of the dry sand, the finished vessel can be easily removed without injury. In constructing large vessels whose own weight would crush them the presence of heat is necessary to dry the vessel somewhat and thereby strengthen the walls. This is accomplished by the suspension of a charcoal fire in the center of the vessel. The beginning is the same as in the smaller vessel, but the drying is repeated from time to time till the vessel is finished. Clay of some  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches in diameter is coiled around to the height of several inches. The wheel is then revolved until this first layer is even and smooth and of proper thickness. Then another layer is stuck on and



worked into shape the same way. The heat meanwhile renders the first section rigid enough to support the upper layer. So it is built up, rendered more compact by beating with a paddle from time to time, the clay being supported within by a wooden block. When this process is completed and the proper size is attained the moist rag is again introduced and any minor changes in shape are made; meanwhile any inequality of surface is reduced. After the vessel is thus completed it is set aside to dry sufficiently to be safely handled, when it is given a bath in a silicious liquid and again dried before being placed in the oven for burning, the melted silicon giving it the vitreous glaze. This oven or kiln is prone on the side of a hill, of some 60 or 70 ft. in length and seven or eight feet in diameter. The pottery is carefully placed within and a great fire is built. After it has burned sufficiently all the apertures are closed that the heat may be retained. When done the vessels are all taken out and inspected, and if any small cracks are discovered they are filled with a cement made of oil and ashes. They are then ready to be despatched to the various markets.

W. E. SMITH.

### The War in N. E. Korea.

"The Sons of the Mackerel have left and the Sun Men have taken possession." This is the phrase I heard a dozen times as I journeyed rapidly in the rear of the Japanese advance from Wonsan to Song Chin. The only name that the common people of the north here give the Russians is *Ma-u-ja*, which seems to be a euphonious way of saying *mang-u-ja* and this means Sons of the Mackerel. Why they call them by this name, whether with intent to honor or to defame I cannot tell. The Chinese in Hun Chun also call them by the same name so I imagine our northern usage had its origin in Manchuria. The name *A-ra-sa* is never used; but sometimes as a variation from *Ma-u-ja* they speak of *Asara* which is more

easy to the Korean vocal organs, and has a meaning of its own to the Korean onlooker at the War. Japan has said *Asara* (stop!) to Russian depredations in Korea.

About the 24th of January, for some reason known only to themselves, the Russian forces which had held the country down to within 40 miles of Ham Hung began a precipitate retreat. The Japanese may have played some trick on them such as feigning a naval descent on Possiet which would cut the Russian communications. For some such play the Russians would be an easy mark, judging by the accounts I hear in Song Chin. Some time in January in the dead of night the sentinel saw, of a sudden, bright lights at sea which after a time disappeared. He called out the guard and reported warships in the offing. Then there was hurrying and with frantic haste the troops were gotten together, some men mounting without their equipment. One Korean says "In their eagerness to escape they resembled a tiger leaping on his prey." When they crossed the high hill to the north as day broke fair they saw that their only enemies on the sea were a few fishing smacks that had lit fires as usual to cook their food at night. They returned to Song Chin at that time. But it would be a fitting retribution for the Baltic Sea outrage were it so that the senseless Russian retreat had been caused by mistaking the lights of a fishing fleet for a Japanese squadron.

It has been a very gentle war so far in N. E. Korea, with few casualties, and yet the mark of the war was to be seen on the face of each county as I travelled north. At Mun Chun were the graves of the Russians killed in the first skirmish in June. In Ko Won were the blackened ruins of the houses fired by the retreating Russians in revenge for false information (and here be it said by the way the Koreans affirm, with what truth I do not know, that each Cossack carries a bottle of liquid which when thrown on a house causes it to take fire spontaneously.) In Ham Hung a new town is springing up at the south end of the long bridge where the whole quarter has been burnt out. In Ham Hung there are also graves. In Hong Won I had a good view

of the place where the Japanese ambushed the Russians in December. A score of Japanese hid in a thick grove of trees between the main road and the sea. The Russians rode gaily by and went up the little short-cut road to the crest of the hill where they dismounted, tied their horses and leisurely scanned Hong Won with their glasses. Meanwhile the Japanese crept out to the roadside and gave them a volley in the rear which dropped nine men and two horses.

I am very sorry that I cannot read Russian, for in Hong Won district at the Tai-mun pass where the Russian advance post was long encamped, they had cut the bark off the trees till the white wood showed and written long messages of some kind. It would be interesting to know what Ivan Ivanovitch had to say about his adventures in Korea.

Puk Chung district has a most Christian appearance with the cross-crowned graves of two Russian officers on the top of a prominent hill. Each has a nicely cut marble slab laid on the grave carved with a long inscription and at the head is the wooden cross painted black with two horizontal, and one oblique, cross-pieces.

Yi Won and Tan Chun are especially blessed by the excellent bridges over the rivers (one is about 200 feet long and eighteen wide) and the new roads over the Ma-ul-lyŭng "Cloud Toucher," and Ma-chul-lyŭng "Heaven Toucher" passes. Many a traveller for years to come will bless the memory of the engineers who reduced these huge abrupt obstructions to very nearly a level road.

The Russian main force left Song Chin on January 24th leaving a screen of 200 men to guard the large depot of stores. These finally left on February 23rd burning all the food stuffs, but not before the Cossock guard had sold good quantities of it for a mere song to a scrambling crowd who also recovered much from the flames. There are few houses in Song Chin now that have not a bag or two of oats or barley. The Japanese scouts occupied Song Chin on February 25th.

The Russian visitors retired without paying any rent

for the use of Mr. R's residence, or for the church which they forcibly took from the Christians, and like common robbers they carried away on a schooner, which sailed for Vladivostok, the very furniture of the church.

The Japanese finished up the poor little church by putting their horses in it when they arrived, ruining the stone floor and desecrating the sanctuary.

I wonder if you in Seoul have heard of the Kōng-cui-so-whe. That is the name the northern Tong Haks in the Russian lines took. They obtained from the Russians the right to look after their spy business, no doubt mutually buying and selling information with the Chin-po-whe in the Japanese lines. They also attended to the business of catching Japanese spies; that is they levied blackmail on all who could by any stretch of imagination be charged with even a shadow of suspicion. Seven of our Christians were arrested by these sharks and fleeced of various sums before they could obtain their freedom; three others had to flee to Wonsan from their threatening, while of the non-Christian community many fared even worse, perfectly innocent men being haled to Vladivostok at the horses' heads for indefinite imprisonment. The leader of the gang fled away when the Japanese came but the general Tong Hak community cut its hair and suddenly became the Chin-po-whe.

### “Mr. Hong, Tiger.”

(FOLK-TALE TRANSLATED BY REV. G. ENGEL, FUSAN.)

There once lived a man, whose name was Hong. Having lost his father early, he was under the tutelage of his mother, whom he served with the greatest devotion. Now, it happened that his mother took ill and suffered for years from a disease on which the hundred kinds of medicine in existence had no effect. A premature death was her sure and only fate.

There was, however, still a clever physician somewhere, whom they had not yet consulted. Him the son

fetched. After the medical man received full information about the disease, he declared—

“Although I have diagnosed the case, I am afraid you will find it difficult to carry out my instructions.” The son replied, however—

“Whatever the Doctor may prescribe, I shall do my best. Therefore, please speak freely.” The doctor’s pronouncement was then as follows—

“For this disease there is only one remedy. All others are useless. Only by eating the livers of a thousand dogs will the patient live. If these cannot be procured, then she must surely die.”

After the son had entertained the physician, paid his fee and bidden him farewell, he sat down to consider the situation quietly. He told himself—

“Of household-goods we have never had any superfluity, and since my mother’s illness we have, during the last few years, sold the little we had, in order to buy medicines. Thus our fortune has been used up, and we have nothing left of this world’s goods. But without such it is very difficult to help her. Yet, even if we possessed untold riches, this case would be still a matter of great difficulty.” In all this, he never thought of his own comfort, but only how to preserve his mother’s life. Yet he saw no way out of the difficulty. While he thus pondered over the problem for several days, a plan suddenly occurred to him.

He went to a secluded mountain, offered sacrifices to the spirit of the mountain, gave him a full account of his mother’s illness and condition and the doctor’s prescription and asked to be changed into a tiger. After he had thus for several days made the same request, there appeared to him one night in his dream a white-haired old man, who addressed him as follows:—

“As thou, in such complete devotion to thy mother, hast approached me with an urgent request on her behalf, I now give thee this book. If the first part is read, the man becomes a tiger; if the second part is read, the tiger becomes a man again. Take the book with thee and accomplish thy desire!”

When he heard that, the man's heart became full of joy and, while expressing his thanks for this favour, he awoke suddenly. The old man had disappeared, but by his side lay a book. He took it and returned home. That very day he made his first trial. At midnight, when all was still, he took the book, went outside and read the first part of it, when he indeed, according to the word of the old man, became a tiger. The book he hid under the thatch of the roof.

In the awe-inspiring shape of a tiger, he was now able to traverse hundreds of *li* in the space of a single hour. As he was in a very good mood, he spared the village in which he lived, but went to a magistracy some twenty miles (lit. several tens of *li*) distant, caught a dog and carried him to his house. Then he took the book down, read part of it and became a man again. He went into the house, killed the dog, took the liver and served it up to his mother.

Thus he became, from now on every night, a tiger, while by day he was a man. But he continued these strange doings without ever uttering a word in explanation to the people in his house. Now, his wife noticed that her husband went out every night and only returned home after a considerable time and that he did so without regard to wind or weather. Although she asked him about his strange proceedings repeatedly, he refused to enlighten her. As she was thus left in a state of complete ignorance, she decided to find out for herself.

One night, when her husband was going out she concealed herself and saw how he, after reading from a certain book, was suddenly changed into a tiger. After he had put the book under the roof and gone away, the wife considered the matter and came to this conclusion—

“On the one hand it is a fearsome business, and on the other it is uncanny. It seems to me, if I destroy that book, he will without doubt not be changed again into a tiger.” So she took the book down quietly, threw it into the fire and burnt it up.

When the tiger returned and looked for the book, it was no longer there. He jumped into the air, and heaven

and earth seemed to turn round. He roared and tried to speak, but could only utter a tiger's voice. His wife trembled with terror, and the whole village was thrown into consternation. His mother fainted in her illness and when recovering asked her daughter-in-law :

"How is it that in the dead of night such a huge tiger makes this terrible noise in front of my doorstep and that my son is absent. Where has he gone?"

The daughter-in-law realized under ceaseless terror what she had done. But although she confessed to her mother-in-law what had happened, it remained a hopeless case. The tiger knew that, as there was no other scheme available, he was helpless and that it was all his wife's fault. For this reason he bit her to death.

Then he turned towards the mountain valley and while he followed it he considered his situation. He could not hope ever to become a man again, nor was there the least chance now for his mother to recover. He told himself:

"Although I am in appearance a tiger, yet in my inmost heart I remain a man."

When these thoughts came over him, he became very sad and oppressed. Then he roared so tremendously that mountain and stream shook and the village became greatly terrified.

By day he always slept in the hills, but by night he came down into the village. He however left old and young of the male sex alone, whoever he might be. But as regards women, as he had once begun by killing one, he could not bear the sex, and it became unsafe for them to go out at night.

Later he also appeared by day. Yet he never attacked the men and did not harm them in the least. Therefore grass-boys, carpenters and every-day travellers, having gradually realized the situation, were not afraid when they saw him, but simply said :

"It is Mr. Hong, Tiger."

## How Priests\* Became Genii.

(FOLK-TALE TRANSLATED BY REV. G. ENGEL, FUSAN.)

There once existed a monastery, in which in the night of the last day of every year a priest was transformed into a genius and disappeared. One day a passing traveller stopped at the monastery and stayed several days. The monks told him, among other things:

"The Buddha of our monastery possesses immense miraculous powers. For on New Year's eve one of our priests is by it changed into a genius and disappears." When the guest heard this, he thought over the matter for a while and then declared:

"What you tell me of is not a transformation into genii, but on the contrary it means that a great misfortune has come over your monastery. If you cannot ward it off, your monastery is sure to be destroyed."

When the monks heard these words, they were quite frightened and asked the stranger:

"What must we do to escape this misfortune?"

The man replied: "Do as I tell you. If you get one hundred white fowls and rear them in the monastery, you will soon see something happen. Be sure and do as I tell you!"

According to this advice the monks obtained one hundred white fowls and fed them well. One day all the fowls disappeared at one and the same time. The monks thought this very strange, and although they searched everywhere for them in the neighbourhood of the monastery, they could not find a trace of them. When, however, continuing their search, they went up a mountain valley, they heard in the distance the noise of fowls. At

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\* 'Priest' may not be quite the right term for the Korean 부중. But as we must make a distinction between 부중 (which cannot be rendered by "abbot" either) and 중, the former is rendered "priest" and the latter "monk" in the story. Probably the two terms correspond to *Sramana* and *Bhikshu* of the early Buddhistic order. The term "genii" would suggest a relapse of Buddhism into Animism unless *Bodisats* are meant by them.



once they turned in that direction and found a big cave, from which the clucking of the fowls proceeded.

They entered, and behold, there was a centenarian centipede that was as long as a winnow, lying dead on its back. What a fright all the monks got! When they looked more closely, they discovered a heap of human skulls and bones. It was clear to the monks how that this centipede had every year caught one of the priests and eaten him up and that now the fowls had pecked the centipede to death.

### Prof. Asakawa's Book.

EDITOR OF THE KOREA REVIEW.

Dear Sir:—

I have read with much interest your remarks about my recent work, *The Russo-Japanese Conflict*, in the January number of your REVIEW. I hardly deserve the favorable comment you gave the book. I feel obliged to refer to the questions you openly asked me in the editorial pages. Let me say first, however, that I am always deeply interested in your REVIEW as one of the few channels through which I can observe the trend of Korean affairs from this distance. For this reason, I am greatly indebted to you, and I take this opportunity to thank you sincerely.

Now, returning to your open questions, I must confess that, in my opinion, they appear to take me for what I am not and should not be. I did not write as a Puritan of the seventeenth century, but as a student of the twentieth. It was not my mission to dogmatize, but to analyse issues and record events. I had not the slightest desire to "maintain" anything which facts might prove to be false. In this sense, I fear there is certain incongruity between the spirit of your challenge and that of my book.

Again, you should have noted in the preface that the

introductory chapter, about which all your questions were raised, was originally published in the *Yale Review* for May, 1904, and was consequently written before the development of most of the events in the light of which you refuted my statements. Thereby you may be said to have violated one of the first canons of historical method.

You also overlooked the fact that the chapter in question rather dealt with the issues at stake than re-recorded facts which had happened. It was not, like the rest of the book, descriptive, but analytical, and if any feature of the analysis has been seen not to agree with the later development of events, it should be discredited or corrected. The very style and the wording, which accord with the aim of the chapter, will suggest that it is essentially different from either a theological conviction which the clergy must maintain dogmatically or a historical narrative which has been fashioned to fit a theory.

This primary distinction would occur to any reader who is a critical student of historical science.

The facts to which you refer in your questions are highly welcome, and I wish to see many more of them. I find no reason, however, why I should answer the questions, for the only answer must be the study of *the truth of the situation*, of which your facts form a part. And the answer would then be additional chapters to my book, and no longer an introductory analysis of issues as seen a year ago. The student has yet to be convinced that the main issues have changed.

So far I have written as a student. As a citizen of Japan, however, all blunders of my compatriots in Korea burn me with shame and regret. For the sake of progress, let us neither conceal the blunders nor delight in merely denouncing them; let not our vision be in any way limited or prejudiced, but let it be comprehensive and impartial. Let us be promoters of good as well as critics of evil.

Hanover, N. H., U. S. A.

March 12, 1905.

Respectfully yours,

K. ASAKAWA.

This very frank and interesting statement requires a word of comment. If we have violated one of the first

canons of historical method we would like to know it and to acknowledge our mistake. Prof. Asakawa's basis for this charge is that the chapter referred to was originally published in the *Yale Review* in May 1904 and therefore antedated most of the events in the light of which we criticized his statements. We leave it with our readers to decide whether the original date of the writing has anything to do with the matter. If the article was reprinted at a later date it came out with the stamp of the writer's approval at the later date. It was a reaffirmation of a previous statement. If further facts had come to light which tended to refute his statements the chapter should have been rewritten in the light of those facts. It seems to us that this is a sufficient answer to the professor's charge.

We think his attitude was clearly in favor of the cultivation of the Korean waste lands by Japanese. The tendency of his words was to make his readers so believe. The implication is plain that he thinks the Japanese would be willing to exploit these less favorable localities while the Koreans continued in their occupancy of the best portions of the land. It was to disabuse him of this erroneous idea that we asked the question. We did not intend to elicit an answer to a categorical question but merely to indicate through the interrogation our dissent.

We expressed a very high regard for Prof. Asakawa's book as a whole but in some portions, whether introductory or otherwise, he left an impression that was in our view erroneous and in fairness to the author and to the public we had to mention the points of disagreement. We realize that the author's lack of a personal acquaintance with conditions in Korea put him at something of a disadvantage in handling these delicate questions but we cannot for a moment grant that our criticism of his statements was a departure from the canons of historical criticism. (Ed. K. R.)

### The City of Yung-byun.

The political center of North Pyeng Yang province is a little walled city situated two hundred and thirty *li* north of Pyeng-yang and sixty *li* from An-ju. The city proper, or rather town, lies between high hills in a low basin and the main entrance, by the north gate, is through a long deep cañon which is the most picturesque part of the city. The wall climbs the tops of the mountains and the town is so completely shut in that unless you ascend the sides of the hills you cannot see out in any direction. The four gates leading out are approximately in the direction of the four points of the compass. The north gate which leads into the deep cañon is triple arched. But two of the arches are practically a bridge, under which the stream which flows through the city finds its outlet. The other arch, the one to the left as you enter, is the gate proper. Over it all is a well constructed pavilion which long ago was no doubt greatly used by the people as a place to rest and enjoy themselves, but it is now fast falling into decay and does not appear to be much used.

The Buddhist temple which is in the outer enclosure of the city shows many remaining signs of ancient splendor, but it is now fast going to ruin, and two lonely priests who, in a most perfunctory way, perform their daily routine, represent all that is left of the glory of former days. High up on a cliff outside the north gate, almost hid from view, is a small convent which has been the home of Buddhist nuns, but has now, I believe, but one occupant. Devil worship, which abounds everywhere in Korea, seems to have found a favorite home in Yŏng-byŏn.

In ancient times this town was a place of much political importance, but tradition says that at one time the officials acted treasonably, and consequently most

of their power was taken away and transferred to An-ju. For a long time it had little influence, but at the close of the Japan-China war the Pyeng-an province was divided into North and South Pyeng-an provinces and Yŕng-byŕn became the governor's seat of the Northern province.

It is very difficult to estimate accurately the population of a Korean town, but I think Yŕng-byŕn has probably about ten thousand inhabitants. The great majority of the houses are thatched. A very much smaller number, in proportion, have tiled roofs than in the neighboring city of An-ju

Everyone knows how the Korean people fear and hate their officials because of the fearful oppression they have to endure, but it is sometimes the case that a man who holds no official position gradually secures power, and fearing neither officials nor any one else does what he pleases. Such a man lives in Yŕng-byŕn. In years past he presented large sums of money to some of those who until recently had great authority in the disposal of Korean affairs. He is feared and hated by all the people of Yŕng-byŕn and neither the magistrate nor the governor seems to be able to interfere with him. Last year the highest *chusa* of the governor, a Seoul man and one who was serviceable to the people, in some way offended this man and walking into the governor's presence he beat his *chusa* before him. The insult was equivalent to beating the governor, but the governor said nothing. The *chusa* left immediately for Seoul, and the man of power continued to do as he chose.

C. D. MORRIS.

## “Incubative Warmth.”

AS APPLIED TO KOREA BY JAPAN.

For this unique expression explaining Japanese methods in carrying out their promised propaganda of altruistic efforts to maintain Korea's independence

and develop the country, I am indebted to the Editor of THE KOREA REVIEW.

Japan has been applying some of this "incubative warmth" to Wonsan, and the working of this new force in the world is interesting, since after Japan has revolutionised Korea she may feel called upon to apply the same principle to other and more important portions of the Far East.

An order has been issued here by the Japanese officer in charge of the military, to the Korean officials, ordering that no property shall be sold, within the ten *li* limit, to other than Japanese nationals, and Koreans have been arrested for making the attempt. The ten *li* limit clause is qualified, I understand, by another clause saying "within the stakes put down by the military," which however extend ten *li* and include all the desirable property. These stakes have also been driven on American, British and French property.

There are three routes by which the railway can come into Wonsan. One is a straight route to the Japanese settlement and shore front, immediately back of the Korean town without grading or cutting, and it would involve the removal of only a half dozen houses. One is a much shorter route behind the hills and would not remove any houses. The third route, and the one chosen, takes in the shore front before the Korean town and is a much longer route. It involves the remaining third of the shore front they have not already acquired and wipes out the whole business part of the native town of Wonsan. Not only so but it extends an eighth of a mile below the town, as far as there is deep water, leaving Koreans without a place of business and without a shore front. This is by far the most valuable property in Wonsan and encloses the only harbor that is safe for Korean shipping in a storm.

The Korean Government recently sent a magistrate to Kowon. He did not suit the Japanese and they sent out gendarmes and forcibly took the seal away from him and gave it to a man of their own choice. To his everlasting credit he refused it. He in turn was coerced. He

then wired the Korean Government that he had been forced to take the seal by the Japanese military. It is extremely doubtful if this telegram got through.

This is by no means all of the wrong-doing perpetrated in the name of "military necessity" and other quibbles by the Japanese in this port of Wonsan.

This sort of incubation might be tolerated if Japan were hatching eggs for Korea. But unfortunately the chicks are for Japan and even the eggs are not paid for.

Our consuls must know that our treaty rights with Korea are being ignored. Have the powers determined to give Japan a free hand in Korea and sacrifice the treaty rights of their own subjects?

That they are not all ignorant of the situation in Korea is instanced by the opinion of a civil official of one of the greatest powers. He said recently "In fifty years there will be nothing left of Koreans but a few scattered groups of mountaineers."

The question might be asked, Who should interfere to prevent the extinction of the Korean race? China has interest enough but is not in a position to interfere. America has some interest but her "Monroe doctrine" does not extend this far. If Korea were a Republic now—who knows?

England? Yes certainly; more commercial interest than any power outside of Japan. But as her goods come to Korea *via* China she don't seem to realize she has any interest in this country. And of course after Japan has checked Russia without any cost to England, it would be ungenerous of England not to give her a free hand, and Korea just now, in the good old diplomatic phrase, is "available."

I am not sure that extinction of the Korean race would not be better for them than to be left under Japanese tutelage. Koreans have a phrase which is equivalent to the English, "The word of a gentleman." To cast such a standard of morality aside and accept the Japanese watchword, "Get there or commit suicide," would be worse than extinction. I have come in con-

tact with Koreans under Japanese influence for fifteen years and have yet to meet one of them who is trustworthy.

BUFORD.

### Note to "Buford's" Communication.

By reference to the February number of this magazine the reader will find on the sixty-seventh page the expression "incubative warmth" but no reference was made to Japan. We distinctly said that this incubative warmth must come from *Education*. It would seem therefore that the writer of the above paragraphs could not have borrowed the "unique phrase" from us as "explaining Japanese methods in Korea," for as yet Japan has done very little toward forwarding the cause of education here. There are some signs that she may do so but until the war is over at least, her energies will probably be devoted to other objects. We cannot believe, however, that Japan has given up the idea of improving educational conditions here nor can we believe that the somewhat harsh military methods adopted during a time of war will continue after peace has been declared. It is unfortunately true that many acts of injustice have been done against the Koreans of which those cited by "Buford" are good samples but the cessation of war and the inauguration of a civil, as distinguished from a military, regime may give the Japanese a better opportunity to cope with those evils which are rendering them more and more obnoxious to the Koreans. Every one who has any considerable dealings with the Koreans knows that they are the easiest people in the world to get along with if they are treated half decently, and we believe the Japanese could have gotten all they have without causing a fraction of the unrest and hatred which is so evident among the people. It might have cost a little more trouble but it would have been a good investment. (Ed. K. R.)



## Northern Korea.

The three most conspicuous features of modern enterprise in northern Korea are set forth in the marvelous success which has followed (1) Missions, (2) Mines, (3) Merchants—the first under the Presbyterian and Methodist Churches (with the Roman Catholics very busy also), the second under the various foreign mining companies of which the most important is the Oriental Consolidated Mining Company of America, and last and most conspicuous of all—the Japanese occupation.

As to mission work I can speak confidently only of that done by the Presbyterians, though the Methodists, in proportion to the number of workers, have been correspondingly successful. Referring to the reports of last year we find that out of 1868 baptisms that were performed by the whole Presbyterian Mission (north) in Korea, 1414 were in connection with the two northern stations of Pyeng-yang and Sunch'un. Out of a total of 298 churches and chapels erected and in working order the north showed 218. Out of a total financial contribution of Yen 16,444.20 the northern field furnished Yen 13,921.80. Out of a total of 23,356 adherents the northern section showed 18,274. These authentic figures show, so far as mere figures can, why the mission work in Korea is accounted a wonderful success. The other mission, the Methodist, reports, as I have said, proportionate figures; each qualified missionary having some 2,000 adherents under his charge. This proportion is fully up to that of the Presbyterian work. A thousand different individuals come every month to our hospital and an equal number to the two Methodist hospitals. It is evident that medical work, which started simultaneously with the beginnings of evangelistic work, has helped to bring about the stupendous results indicated in the above figures. When you think of the civilizing and ennobling influence of the 30,000 Christians in Northern Korean you will readily see why I set down religious

effort as one of the conspicuous features of Northern Korea today.

I have heretofore written about the mining enterprises of the north and there is nothing new to add except that the success there hinted at has been more than realized. The American Mines, the largest single foreign enterprise in Korea, goes on from success to success. Consular reports will show what they are doing. Then there are the British Mines at Eunsan and others at Sun-an. All these not only put money in the pockets of those who work them but they indirectly benefit thousands of Koreans, while the government receives an annual percentage of profits.

The further north you go the wealthier or the more generous the Koreans are, for the native Christians at Sun-ch'un, with less than half the numbers in Pyengyang, give more than half as much money to the cause. This may be because of the thousands of dollars paid out monthly at the mines and which rapidly find their way into general circulation. Every form of activity seems to be awaking from the sleep of centuries, and native merchants, miners, farmers and artisans of every kind are taking part in and gaining inspiration from the new air that they are breathing.

To what shall we attribute this added zest of life, this new enthusiasm which catches and holds all classes of Koreans? It certainly appears to me that it is largely due to the Japanese occupation. There are some who regret the rapidity with which the Japanese are pouring in but I think this is well compensated for by the added energy and activity that has been imparted to the Koreans. It means that the old times have gone. We all know what that means. In spite of isolated cases to the contrary the Japanese occupation of this whole northern region has resulted in greater peace and in a better administration of law than we could have hoped for otherwise. The reason why I do not fear this industrial invasion of the part of the Japanese is because I fully believe that when the Korean gets thoroughly awake he will be able to compete successfully with the Japanese.

Real estate in Pyeng-yang has gone up by leaps and bounds. The people will at last come to see the use of holding on to their property and they will gain in the rough but effective school of experience a knowledge of men and methods which will enable them to match the Japanese in every walk of life, industrial, financial, commercial and economic. Without this rough-and-tumble experience through which the Koreans are now passing I do not see how they ever would have been able to drag themselves out of the happy-go lucky style of existence in which they have always lived. They needed something to give them an *edge* and the Japanese whetstone will do it as nothing else could. Don't talk to me about the Koreans being a decadent people. I have seen too much of them in the hospital and in ordinary life to believe that. All they need is to be waked up. The Japanese method may not be the gentlest in the world but it is effective at any rate, and it is the only method in sight. It is as true of social life as of physical that if a man has taken an overdose of an opiate he must be knocked about a bit, walked up and down, punched in the ribs till he gets mad—that'll bring him around in time. This is what the Korean is getting now, and is going to get still more. It is heroic treatment but he has got the constitution to stand it.

Some people talk about Japanese methods as if they thought those plucky and wide-awake fellows ought to take their cue from the *Lady's Home Journal* or some other domestic standard but if you will look at the annals of Christian countries and see what things have been done and are being done today you will discover that the great law of the survival of the fittest is working out there as well as here; a law that is hard and cruel sometimes in its details but of ultimate benefit to men.

In these northern portions of Korea we have much to thank the Japanese for and I for one say *Dai Nippon! Banzai!* and shall keep saying it so long as they live up to their promises.

J. HUNTER WELLS.

### Sanitation in Korea.

The city of Seoul has often been held up to public scorn by visitors because of the filthy condition of its streets. The criticism is a just one and the only extenuating circumstance is the fact that the towns of China, while apparently cleaner are in fact fully as bad as Seoul. The regulation of the sanitary arrangements for a large city like Seoul is a difficult matter. At present the plan is as follows. Through the center of the town there runs a wide, open ditch or sewer carefully walled up on either side. Into this main artery come important side branches, also open. These ramify into every nook and corner of the town and from each house there is a small open drain which insures the carrying away of filth provided there is sufficient rainfall. The night soil is carried away by men who make it a regular business but unfortunately it is done in the daytime and not at night. It stands to reason that such a state of affairs must be very unpleasant and to some extent injurious. But it should not be forgotten that sunlight is a good disinfectant and Seoul owes very much to the fact that, however the eye and the nose may be offended, good honest sunlight has always been allowed to penetrate these noisome places; and it is to this fact that Seoul owes her comparative immunity from such scourges as diphtheria. It is said that this disease was practically unknown in Tokyo until after the drains were covered over.

The progress of events demands that changes for the better should be made in sanitation here but there are one or two things that require consideration before the attempt is made. There are two general plans by which a large city may be rid of its refuse. One is by letting the rains wash it away and the other is by doing it artificially. Each of these two methods is again subdivided into two heads. If rains are plentiful and frequent we can imagine that this natural agency would wash away all soluble or semi-soluble refuse, but if the rainfall

is only moderate it is plain that a large part of the refuse must be carried away either by the present method or by some other. The rain may be depended upon to do the rest. The same is measurably true of artificial flushing. If the amount of water is large and all ditches can be frequently and thoroughly flushed nothing else is necessary; but no city has such an enormous artificial supply nor can possibly have *unless the main drains are provided with pipes* through which the water forces its way. Even with the very best artificial water supply the ditches of Seoul could not possibly be cleaned out. All the waters of the Han River would hardly suffice to keep the city clean unless this was supplemented by the scavenger and night-soil man.

This matter is of special importance just at this time for all of the foreign residents of Seoul have seen how the Koreans are laying sticks across the ditches and covering them with earth to a depth of two or three inches. We venture to say that such a method is simply suicidal. These covered ditches will prove simply death traps. No attempt has been made to secure the better flushing of these drains and by covering them up the sunlight is excluded and the noxious germs are left to grow in the dark.

And not only so but the drains are not well covered. If they could be sealed tight and only required opening occasionally when they were stopped up, even that would be bad enough, but at present there are openings every fifty or sixty feet and all the value of covering the ditches is lost and all the evils added. We shall suffer no less from the evil smells but we shall further run the risk of infection. There is probably no other one way by which the general health of Seoul could be so quickly and so surely impaired as by pursuing the policy now being acted upon here. Every foreigner in the city ought to raise a voice of protest against it. The Japanese authorities ought to take immediate steps to stop it. This sort of sanitation is perhaps the best illustration of the truth that a little of a good thing is worse than none. Either let us have good, thorough, civilized sanitation

or let us give the sun a chance. There is no possibility of the former but we may confidently depend upon Old Sol to do his share as he has always done.

### Editorial Comment.

The death of Dr. J. Edkins of Shanghai, a member of the Imperial Customs Service, removes from the stage one of the chief actors in one of the acts in the Far Eastern drama. Not an important act, some will say; for language and history and ethnology are not classed among the studies that bear directly and immediately upon the present activities of life. We think that things—the main things—would go on quite as well without rummaging about among the archives and back-attics of forgotten generations. We are apt to have or to develop a certain contempt for any but the strenuous life and to limit the application of the word strenuous to definite constructive work. The fallacy of such a position is illustrated in the career of a certain famous horticulturist in California who produces apples without cores, peaches without stones and cacti without thorns. These are confessedly magnificent achievements and they give this man the hall-mark of the strenuous, but how did he arrive at the principles upon which to work in producing these results? It was by looking back to the processes which produced the things that are already common to us. He wanted to know how the large kernel of rice which we eat today was developed from the small kernel of wild rice, how our luscious grapes are developed from the wild grape, how the monstrous strawberries of our markets are developed from the comparatively small and worthless wild strawberry. Had we seen him in his laboratory picking flowers to pieces, juggling with pollen, and coaxing nature to stultify herself by producing seedless fruit we might have set him down as a dreamer or a faddist or even a "crank." But when out of all this looking back and putting his ear to the ground he brings out a food plant that will clothe the

millions of America's desert acres and provide nutritious food for millions of cattle we take it all back and say *finis coronat opus*. And if we applaud the successful labors of a man who provides us new or better things to *eat* why should we deny an equal need of praise to him who provides us larger and deeper things to *think*; for it can hardly be denied that the studies and investigations which Dr. Edkins pursued are of the same sort which have opened up to us the history of Ancient Egypt, Babylonia and Assyria, verified a multitude of biblical statements of historic facts and enlarged our study of mankind. The knowledge of the history of a plant gave the horticulturist the key to future development and it is conceivable that the clearer our knowledge of man's history the better we shall be able to affect his future.

It is hardly necessary to offer any apology for the study of philology, the special branch which Dr. Edkins affected; but up to the present time the worlds philologists have confined their work almost exclusively to the Indo-European or Aryan stock. This is most natural, for one is interested primarily in the origin of his own mother tongue and it is only to be expected that Europeans and Americans will inquire most eagerly after the beginnings of their own speech.

The time has now come, however, when these other millions are coming into prominence. We have come into close contact with them, and that, too, in the most practical matters of life. Now it stands to reason that we must get to understand these people, we must make ourselves able to look at things from their stand-point or else we shall get into all sorts of difficulties. Why is it that on one side we have the premonition of a Yellow Peril while on the other side the notion is laughed at? The fact is that we do not know enough about these peoples to make even a guess at what the next century may bring forth. We know enough of the Gallic, Germanic or Anglo-Saxon peoples to posit certain large features of their probable futures but of these eastern people we cannot do it, simply because we do not know enough about their past, their antecedents, their train-

ing, the moral forces that have moulded them into their present shape. Why is it that almost every one has been disappointed, happily or otherwise, in the showing of Russian arms in this present war? It was because we know little, comparatively, about the Russian people from the inside. If the outcome of this war, so far, has surprised us what shall we say of the possible achievements of a Chinese army properly armed, fed, governed and led? No one of us has the temerity even to guess at what it could do. What we need is a fuller knowledge of what sort of people these are with whom we are dealing and we need to let them also know what sort of people we are. Let us suppose for a moment that every person in America could become completely and perfectly aware of the social condition of the Chinese people and at the same time that every Chinese should become equally aware of the social condition of Americans. We fancy it would be a rather dangerous experiment to try. It must come gradually but it must come surely, in time, if we are to handle the situation properly for ourselves and for these Far Eastern peoples as well. Now the work of Dr. Edkins was along one of the lines leading toward a better understanding of who and what the Chinese are. He was a true pioneer, for his best work was in the collecting of data. We venture the opinion that the final estimate of his work will be that the material he amassed is much more valuable than the deductions he made from the data. The same is true of every pioneer.

It is said that if a current of electricity is passed through a glass of water which has been rendered opaque by the addition of a certain chemical, the molecules of the chemical will be instantly polarized and the water will become perfectly clear. In some such way we think that Dr. Edkins tried to make all his countless data focus toward a single point, the original unity of the human race. We think this was unfortunate for the polarizing of the molecules made them in a sense invisible to him. He could not depolarize them again and thus give himself the benefit of a more minute study of their



individual character. But he can be readily forgiven since the polarization was only to his own eye and did not necessarily affect others. It is the man who keeps clubbing the world with a theory, without giving a decent number of facts on which it is based, that deserves no mercy. But the man who spins the most transparent web, and yet gives us plenty of data, will be readily forgiven. Ratiocination is intellectual maternity but if the most inveterate reasoner gives you plenty of facts you forgive him his besetting sin just as you forgive the hen her desire to set, when you break the eggs at your breakfast table.

The study of the dispersion of the Turanian people is one of enormous difficulty; first because of the comparative paucity of literary remains, second because of their comparative conservatism, third because of the very extent of their dispersion and fourth because it began before the dispersion of the Aryan peoples. We shall never be able to trace back the aborigines of Formosa to the Indian peninsula as clearly as we trace the Teuton back to the Iranian plateau, because he went at an earlier date and by a more devious course, and his track has been covered up and obliterated, like a palimpsest, by subsequent migrations. And yet it is certain that such work as this must be done sooner or later. We cannot but honor a man who gives so great a part of his life to the thankless task of collecting data about a race which until recently aroused comparatively so little interest in the scholarly world.



In Dr. Wells' communication on Northern Korea we find a very different note struck than that given in "Bufords" article. These two may be perhaps called the two extremes of opinion. They are interesting and valuable as expressions of individual opinion and impression and by putting them together the reader will see what a mixed question this one of Japanese occupation is. The question evidently has its dark and its bright side. The plans and purposes of the leading Japanese authorities may be the best possible for aught the public can tell but the public is bound to judge from the

actual conditions which prevail rather than from any plans which have not yet been put in operation. And it cannot be denied that the Koreans are treated with great brutality by the lower classes of Japanese. The latter are allowed to travel anywhere in Korea without being subject to any recognized authority. They are too far from their own consuls to be held in check and if the Korean authorities attempt to handle them these authorities themselves are likely to get into serious difficulty. No one, least of all Americans, can fail to sympathize with the Japanese in their desire to cause the opening up of the resources of Korea. It is important both for Korea and for Japan ; but it is a great pity that the Koreans should be subjected to the treatment they now receive which is sure to alienate the sympathy of outsiders. The world is watching to see what ability Japanese will show in handling an alien people. Upon this showing will depend in large part the acquiescence of the Powers in more extended operations on the part of the Japanese in the Far East. The last clause of Dr. Wells' communication is very significant. He says he will applaud the work of Japan "As long as she keeps her promises." We all know what those promises are and we all know that Japan is fighting Russia now because of the latter's broken promises. The basis of the world's sympathy with Japan is the rectitude of her intentions and her willingness to abide by her word. At the beginning of the present war she received from Korea a free and unmolested use of the latter's territory with the distinct understanding that the independence of Korea should be preserved. Korea and the world at large took that expression to mean what it says and any subterfuge or evasion of the issue by Japan will set her before the world in approximately the same light in which Russia was set by her attempts to wriggle out of her engagement to evacuate Manchuria. There is no question that Japan has the physical power to do what she pleases but the world will look to see how she uses the power and what degree of self-restraint she is able to exercise in her solution of the Korean problem.

## Questions and Answers.

Q. Who was the first foreign writer on Korea?

A. The first foreigner who wrote about Korea from actual observation was Heinrich Hamel who, with several others, was wrecked on the coast of Quelpart, Island and was held in captivity in Seoul for many years. He finally managed to escape and on his return to his native Holland he wrote a book about the curious country where he had suffered such a long captivity. Another early writer about Korea was Captain Basil Hall, but he had far less knowledge of the people than did Hamel, for he only touched the coast at a few points and for very short periods.

Q. Are potatoes indigenous in Korea?

A. That is a very hard question to answer. We only know that they have been cultivated here for centuries and that they form the staple article of diet among some of the mountainous portions of the north but it would be rash to state on this account that they are indigenous. There are three varieties, all of which are of fair quality. There are those which show a deep purple color beneath the outer skin, those which show a red color and those which are white.

Q. What do the Koreans mean by *Heuk-pi*?

A. This is, properly speaking, the word *heulk-pi* but it is usually pronounced without the l. It means "earth-rain" or "dirt rain" and refers to the heavy haze which sometimes fills the air when a west wind is blowing. The haze is caused by the minutest particles of sand driven all the way from the Desert of Gobi across northern China and the Yellow Sea. It is evident that only the finest particles could come this far without settling. The Koreans have named it quite properly and are evidently aware of its cause.

Q. Is there any administrative or ecclesiastical connection between Korean Buddhism and that of China, Japan or any other country?

A. We are not aware of any such connection. The Buddhism of Korea is very different from that of Japan. In the latter country the cult is on a higher social plane than here and men of influence give it both moral and financial support. Representatives of that religion in Japan travel to different parts of the world and visit its other branches and so a certain degree of fellowship and *rapprochement* has been established; but in Korea the extremely low social status of Buddhism and its political insignificance would not warrant or encourage any efforts to arouse enthusiasm along such lines. We believe that Japanese Buddhists have made more or less effort to get in touch with Korean Buddhism but so far as we can learn the returns for such effort have been so small that nothing much is expected to result from it. When Buddhist monks live openly with a wife, as many of them do in Korea, it cannot be expected that they will be recognized as reputable members of the brotherhood.

### News Calendar.

Some time since it was reported that the number of Japanese subjects arriving at Wonsan exceeded one hundred and fifty by each boat entering the harbor.

Early in the month the prefect of Chunju reported that members of the Righteous army and the Il-chin-hoi were returning peacefully to their homes.

A request has been made that all buildings belonging to the now defunct Railway Bureau be temporarily loaned to the Japanese.

The Vice-Minister of the Agricultural Department secured from the Foreign Office a concession for building wharves in Chinnampo, Kunsan and Masampo. The wharves must be built within two years, and a sale of the concession to foreigners forfeits the concession.

Kim Chai-soon, formerly inspector of the courts has been made director of accounts in the Department of Communications.

Some of the mines under the control of the Agricultural Department will be developed by a Japanese engineer employed for the purpose.

On the first of April the agreement was signed whereby the Communication Department of Korea comes under the control of the Jap-

anese government, Mr. Yi Ha-yung Minister of the Foreign Department and Mr. Hyashi, Japanese Minister, signing the agreement. Some of the stipulations and statements are reported to be that all arrangements, rates, etc., shall be in charge of the Japanese. The Korean Government will assist the Japanese Government in enlarging and arranging the service. Many Korean officers will be employed. The expense of enlargement will be assumed by the Japanese, who will keep detailed accounts of the income and expense, and any profits will be turned over to the Korean Government. When the Korean Government can attend to this service alone the Japanese Government will again put the Department in Korean hands.

Ordinary telegrams have been accepted on the Japanese military lines since the last of March and the public is availing itself of the privilege.

A Japanese postoffice has been recently established at Samkai.

Miu Yeng sun has resigned as governor of North Chung-chung province.

His Majesty has established a school in Pak Dong, with Sin Hai-yung as Head Master. There are also two principals and more than twenty teachers, graduates of Japanese schools in Tokyo. The entire expense, about two thousand dollars per month, will be borne by the Royal Treasury.

The garden party given by Mr. Megata at the Yun-wha bong on the afternoon of the third of May was a distinct success. The large tree crowned height was tastefully decorated. Tables loaded with good things to suit all tastes were laid in different parts of the grove and near the center the Korean Band dispensed excellent music. The entertainment was largely attended by Koreans Japanese and Westerners and to judge from the animated talking and laughing one must conclude that the guests were excellently well entertained.

We are pleased to learn that Mr. D. W. Deshler is about to put three new fast steamers on the run between Kobe and Chemulpo and Shanghai and Chemulpo. We have seen the plans of these boats and can say that they are very fine. It will be a new experience to leave a Korean port at a speed of fifteen or sixteen knots an hour.

It is said that the treasure building of the Finance Department will be remodeled and have glass windows so that it can be used as a bank for the exchanging of Korea currency. A manager will be appointed, who will confer with the Dai Ichi Giuk concerning rates of exchange, etc.

Min Yung whan, Vice Minister of the Supreme Court, has asked the Educational Department for a complete list of all graduates from the schools that they may be available for appointment to official positions.

The Foreign Office has asked the Japanese Legation to furnish an additional man to assist the adviser to the War Department.

The Foreign Office has received a communication from the German Minister to the effect that all work has been stopped on the Kun Sung mine because gold could not be found in paying quantities, and another concession in another location is asked.

A recent statement shows the number of foreigners in Fusan to be as follows :

Nationality	Houses	Population	
		Male	Female
Japanese	2,553	5,846	5,218
English	4	5	7
American	4	5	5
French	1	1	"
Chinese	23	417	4

The governor of South Pyeng An province reports to the Foreign Office that he has many times applied in vain to the Japanese general to prohibit the staking of land near the railway lines. Although it is pitiful to see the suffering of the people over the lost homes and fields he sees no better plan than for the owners to accept the nominal price offered for the land.

The magistrate of Si Heung reports to the Home Department that a temporary branch railway has been commenced in his district and many rice fields have been destroyed. After vain efforts to stop the work he demanded sixty dollars Korean currency for each field. Forty-seven dollars and eighty cents were given to each owner and the remainder will be used by the people in repairing the streets.

The Italian Minister has presented an invitation for Korea to send a representative to a meeting of the International Agricultural Society to be held in Rome. The Foreign Office has replied that one of the secretaries or clerks in the Korean Legation in Italy will be delegated to attend the meeting.

Pak Tai-yeng, temporarily in charge of Korea's diplomatic affairs in China, has sent word that it is impossible for him properly to care for Korea's interests, and he asks that a more competent officer be sent in his place.

For years telegraph lines have extended from Seoul to the remotest ports of Korea, and more recently there have been installed local and long distance telephones. Now Seoul is to be the center for telephone lines to Wonsan, Fusan and Euiju.

The French Legation has been notified by the Foreign Office that for several years the Russian Whale Fishing Company has failed to pay taxes or percentages, and therefore of course its concession is cancelled.

The magistrate of Pyeng Yang complains to the Foreign Office that a certain foreigner in that place had been breaking down the city wall so that he might have free ingress and egress. The Foreign Office has asked the minister of the government interested to immediately put a stop to such action.

Another article in the agreement concerning the Communication Department provides that any public lands or buildings may be used without payment being made, and any private lands required must be sold by the owner.

The governors of all Korean ports have been ordered by the Foreign Office to prohibit all Korean immigration to foreign lands.

The governor of Songdo reports that he has been compelled to turn over certain lands for the use of the military railway.

The kamni in each port sent telegrams to the Foreign Office stating that they had tried to obey the law in not allowing immigration of Koreans to other countries, but the Japanese had informed them there was an agreement with the Household Department, and an indemnity would be required in case the order was enforced. They asked for instructions.

The demand of the Japanese for the building formerly used by the Railway Bureau has been refused, the statement being made that it is to be used for a school.

The Foreign Office has refused to grant a Belgian gold mine concession at present.

A Japanese monastery near Haiju recently suffered injury at the hands of police said to have been acting under orders from the governor. Complainants have arrived in Seoul demanding justice.

The government has been notified that stone from certain royal lands near Song-do will be required for the use of the military railway.

The Il Chin-hoi sent a letter to the government stating that hereafter that society will act at its own pleasure. The communication was declined by the Vice-Minister of the Supreme Court, Mr. Min Yung-whan.

The governor of Kyeng-ki has been transferred and made a special officer in the Household Department.

Communications have been numerous between the Foreign Office and Japanese Legation over alleged unwarranted exercise of power by the commander-in-chief in Wonsan. Among other allegations is that the seal of office has been forcibly taken from certain Korean officials and put into the hands of other men.

Six hundred members of the police department will be relieved of office, leaving eight hundred to the onerous duty of preserving the public peace.

The vice president and several members of the Il Chin-hoi in Seonl went to Chunju to investigate matters connected with the recent troubles there.

The magistrate of the In Chea district is said to have been a very proper officer during the three years he has filled the position. To confirm the statement is the report that recently a youthful thief, convicted of stealing a cow, excited the pity of the magistrate because

of his youth and general appearance of innocence, and the prisoner was released with only a warning. Natives say the boy has already become a good man.

His Majesty is reported to have contributed ten thousand yen toward the relief of the family of Mr. Hnr Wi, who for some time has been a prisoner at the Japanese military headquarters.

Mr. Chung, a Japanese assistant adviser to the Police Department, has been attending to his duties since arriving in Korea and now the request is made that his salary be fixed at seventy-five yen per month.

The Finance Department has issued a decree concerning the withdrawal of the nickel currency now in use by the Koreans, and the substitution of another currency. As one means of collecting the nickels all public taxes may be paid in nickels. At any money exchange shop in Seoul or other districts when nickels are presented for exchange the transfer must be made without delay. The exchange rate will be two for one as the new currency will be on a gold basis, or that of the Japanese yen, while the old currency is supposed to be on a silver basis. The withdrawal of nickels is scheduled to commence July 1.

Han Chang-kyo has been appointed governor of North Ham Kyeng.

After the Home Department arranged for the appointment of a number of magistrates it was given out that none of the names would be sent in to His Majesty if it could be shown there was a single unjust man on the list.

In the examination of candidates for appointment to the police force it was announced that no man would receive an appointment if he was over fifty years of age, under nineteen, or lacked educational qualifications.

A number of decorations were conferred by the Emperor of Japan on the Korean Special Envoy and the members of his suite on their recent visit to Japan.

Five Japanese accompanied by a Korean have left Seoul to inspect the mining districts in the north.

An attempt has been made to insure future shade in the streets of Seoul by planting slips of trees on either side of the broad streets in the city. The distance between the trees is somewhat excessive, yet the varieties used in the experiment are of a quick growth, and if an average of one half those planted live and thrive a few years hence there will be an abundance of shade.

The governor of Seoul informs the Home Department that he will employ a surveyor to examine the property in the five wards into which the city of Seoul is divided with instructions to report the amount of public and private land within the bounds of the city.

The demand for an increase of salary for the teacher in the government Chinese language school has been refused by the Educational Department.



Native reports say that at least twenty inspectors will arrive from the Agricultural Department in Japan for the purpose of visiting the interior of Korea and reporting on the agricultural possibilities of the country.

The secretary and clerks of the Korean Legation in China have returned home in response to the orders sent for their recall. Only one Korean secretary now remains at Peking for the transaction of diplomatic business.

The Chinese Minister has notified the Foreign office that a Chinese subject accused of killing a Korean in Wonsan nine years ago has recently been apprehended and brought to Seoul. It is now desired that the complaining witness present himself at the trial.

A curious report comes in one of the native papers concerning a school in the district of Kangwha where it is said two hundred students and about six hundred visitors, including more than fifty ladies had organized a debating class, and also that some of the ladies had delivered very interesting lectures.

The War Department will in future have eight regiments of troops stationed in the interior of Korea, and three regiments in Seoul. Within the month a large number of Korean troops have been disbanded.

The seventeenth semi-annual report of the Da-Ichi Ginko is to hand, with what appears to be an excellent showing. The gross profit for the half year ending December 31, 1914, was ¥1,304,548.31. A dividend of 8 per cent per annum was declared, ¥200,000 added to the reserve fund, and more than ¥164,000 carried forward to this year's account. It has been proposed to issue new shares to the amount of ¥5,000,000, making a total capital stock of ¥1,000,000. New branches have been opened in Korea at Wonsan, Pyeng Yang and Taiku.

By the special envoy to Japan His Majesty sent a pair of vases in a handsomely carved case to the Emperor. A silver dish and ten pounds of specially prepared ginseng from Diamond mountain for the Empress. A pair of silver candle sticks for the Crown Prince; and a pair of silver vases for the Crown Princess.

The Foreign Office has been notified that for military purposes the Japanese will establish separate telegraph and telephone lines through Korea.

Mr. Yi Keun-ho has been appointed governor of Kvangkei province, Mr. Sim Ki-won to North Kyung Sang and Mr. Min Yung-sun has been transferred from North to South Kyung sang.

Whang Woo-yung has been sent to Masampo to investigate the claims made by owners of rice fields for indemnity from the Japanese railway bureau for the use of their fields for military purposes.

A Japanese in Taiku has applied to the Foreign Department for permission to use a certain piece of ground for the purpose of establishing a school for teaching Kuk-mun.

The governor of Seoul issued a statement that on the land which is to be used by the Japanese military railway there are two hundred and thirty-four graves in the South Ward and one thousand two hundred graves in the West Ward of Seoul. These were to be removed by the owners within ten days, and the Railway Bureau at Yung San would pay the expense of removal.

Four out of the five police inspectors in five wards of Seoul failed to pass an examination they were required to take, and four vacant positions were for a short time yawning before office-seekers.

As is well known a man in mourning cannot hold official position in Korea. This law some times works great hardship on the people. Many instances are reported where upright and honest magistrates are compelled to resign because of the death of a parent. One of the latest to be made public comes in the form of a petition to the Home Department from the the Tan Chun district asking that notwithstanding the law their magistrate be permitted to remain, as otherwise people will become scattered in all directions if an unjust man should be appointed over them.

The American Minister has presented to His majesty the personal condolences of President Roosevelt on the death of the Crown Princess.

The Korean Legation in Paris has been instructed to send the clerk, Kim Myeng-soo, to Korea, as he has recently been appointed secretary.

His majesty has issued an edict ordering military affairs to be placed in good condition. It is not likely this means an increase of the army or its entire disbandment.

Unprincipled officials or citizens in the guise of officials have been entering villages and districts and demanding money for taxes without stating the name of the tax or purpose for which the money was to be used. Now the magistrate of Nak-an district, Chulla province says he has reported such actions to the governor with the request that he put a stop to such practices, and the governor failing to act in the matter he now asks the Minister to order the governor to arrest these evil men.

Rev. C. T. Collyer is expected to arrive from America within a day or two.

Mr. A. Kenmore, who for a number of years has rendered excellent service as Agent of the Bible Societies in Korea, will with his family return to England via America by first boat on account of a nervous break down. It is hoped the long sea voyage and rest will completely restore his health. Mr. Hugh Miller is now Acting-Agent of the Bible Societies, and communications on Bible Society business should be addressed to Mr. Miller, and checks made out to his order.

Mr. J. G. Holdercroft will take steamer in a few days for America via Europe. He is expecting to enter a seminary in the fall.

The Wonsan kamni informs the Foreign Office that he has been asked by the Japanese to send a clerk to erect posts to outline the limits of the whaling concession (?). He asks a ruling of the Department as to what he shall do in the matter.

A request has been made for an increase in the allowance of salary and house rent for the Chinese teacher in Government Chinese Language School on account of the increase in living expenses.

A special junketing trip to Japan has been arranged for some half dozen or more Korean officials, traveling expenses to the amount of Y. 10,000 each to be paid by the Finance Department.

A fourth line of telephones is being erected by the Japanese Communication department between Seoul and Chemulpo.

A fire in Yong San destroyed one Korean building and more than one hundred bags of rice.

The Agricultural Department has issued orders concerning the concessions for cultivation of wild lands. 1. The land and concession cannot be pawned or sold to foreigners. 2. If the land is not cultivated within one year after the date of the concession the concession will be cancelled. 3. If the owner of the concession wishes to dispose of it to a native he must first secure the consent of the Department. 4. Anyone failing to observe these rules will be punished, and the concession will be forfeited.

The Japanese Minister is reported to have been pressing the Foreign Office for a decision as to the recall of Korean Ministers to foreign countries.

The Home Department notified the governor of South Pyeng An province that any posts set by the Japanese Railway Bureau for the purpose of advance occupation of land should be pulled up immediately, and people were to attend to their ordinary duties in peace.

A police inspector has been accused of imprisoning a man of superior rank who had committed no crime, and also of being drunk and insulting his superior officer. They have no record of such offense having been committed even in ancient times, and summary dismissal is asked for.

Mr. Yi Tea chai, formerly at the head of the Imperial Treasury, is seventy-seven years old, and his wife is seventy-six. On the first of April they celebrated their sixty-first wedding anniversary. Five sons and one daughter are in the home, four of the sons having obtained rank. There are fifteen grandsons and ten granddaughters, with three great-grand-daughters. At the wedding celebration a ceremony was performed as it was sixty-one years ago, and a Japanese photographer took views of the company and the different acts in the ceremony.

The Educational Department is said to contemplate employing a foreigner to inspect all educational work in Korea.

The Korean Religious Tract Society has acquired title to a suitable building site at Chongno, opposite the Electric building, and will erect a suitable office and depository building as soon as funds can be secured for the purpose.

Mr. Kang Poo a Japanese of rank, has arrived in Korea for the purpose of inspecting the interior with a view to establishing Japanese subjects as residents of Korea.

The Japanese adviser to the Police Department returned to Japan with Mr. Hayashi on the 21st instant.

The light-house on Kir Mun Island was finished on the thirteenth instant, and the lights have been in operation since that time.

Mr. Hayashi, Japanese Minister to Korea, has returned to Japan for a short business trip and to visit his family.

A request has been made that all Royal grounds in the empire be temporarily loaned to the Japanese.

More than ten thousand soldiers have recently been discharged from the Korean army.

The Japanese Minister has been notified by the Foreign Office that Japanese subjects have been engaging in mining in the Soon An district without the formality of getting a concession. He is asked to immediately put a stop to such practice.

A number of prominent Koreans have identified themselves with the Japanese Red Cross society since the recent visit of the vice president of that society. A considerable sum of money has also been contributed.

Dr. Morrison, eastern representative of the *London Times*, has been devoting a few days to investigating conditions in Korea.

Formerly Royal Guards were stationed at the Queen's Tomb outside of East Gate, but by the new military arrangements this guard was abolished. Now the Acting Minister of Household Department by special decree has been ordered to raise a half regiment of soldiers without reference to the War Department, for the purpose of protecting the tomb, and the expenses will be born by the Imperial Treasury.

The Vice Minister of the Supreme Court, Min Yung-whan, asked His Majesty to receive the Ministers of all Departments in audience daily, which request was granted, and they all appeared in the palace on the 16th inst.

It is reported that the present number of thirteen provinces will be reduced to eight and the three hundred and forty-four districts will be reduced to one hundred and fifty. The land taxes will be collected by the banks.

The governor of North Pyeng An province telegraphs to the Home Department that eight Koreans have been sentenced to be shot by the Japanese military authorities. They have been charged with stealing military goods. The governor has sent a clerk to investigate.

A large number of both Japanese and Koreans are engaged in mining gold in the Soon an district, Pyeng An province. The mine is so profitable that workmen are flocking to the place, and money is very plentiful. From a village of six or seven houses the place has grown so that now there are about three thousand houses.

The Agricultural Department has notified the governor of Kangwan and Hamkyung provinces that the Japanese are building a military railway between Seonl and Wonsan. The governors are asked to report immediately on the amount of ground, number of houses and number of graves which will be disturbed by railway construction.

The Minister of the Department of Finance has gone to his country home in Eniju.

The chief of police reports, that he will at once commence a systematic effort at cleaning the streets and alleys of Seoul, that the work may be completed before the arrival of hot summer weather.

The kammi of Chang-won informs the Law Department that Japanese detectives discovered the robber Chung Won-kil, and he has now been hanged.

By request of Min Yung-whan, His Majesty has ordered the Law Department to arrest all sorcerers and necromancers.

Mr. Hayashi, Japanese Minister, was received in audience before his recent departure to Japan on business.

The Belgian Consul General was received in audience and presented letters from his government relative to the death of the Crown Princess.

The commander-in-chief of the Japanese army in Wonsan has posted a notice to the effect that no vessels will be allowed to leave the port before sunrise or after sunset unless they have first received permission from his headquarters.

Women have been installed by the Japanese in the telephone headquarters, and it is said that after they become proficient they will have entire charge of the day work in the telephone exchange in Seoul.

Houses near the magistrate's yamen in Yi Chuan district were looted by robbers and many goods were carried away. Such was the fear of the magistrate that he fled from the vicinity.

All Korean butcher shops in the city have been ordered to remove outside the Little East Gate within thirty days, that a general clean-up of the city may take place.

Japanese inspectors have been sent to the various provinces to report on agricultural conditions.

Several offenders in the Si Heang district have been imprisoned for a number of months. After a trial of these cases sentence has been pronounced as follows: Kim Wan-top, convicted of stoning a magistrate to death, to be hanged; Min Yong-hoon, convicted of writing a circular calculated to create the disturbance, to be hanged; Sung Woo-kyeng and Ha Jun-yong, to be imprisoned for life at hard labor, because even though chief men of the village they were unable to stop the disturbance.

Announcement has been made of the coming marriage of Miss Augusta, eldest daughter of Dr. and Mrs. W. B. Scranton, to Mr. Horace Porter, Secretary of the British Legation in Seoul. The ceremony is to take place May 11th at the Church of the Advent, and the bridal party will almost immediately depart for England and the Continent on their wedding journey.

More than two hundred military officers have been dismissed from service, including one colonel, lieutenant and major. They will have another opportunity after satisfactorily passing examinations at the Military School.

Mons. A. Monaco, Italian Minister to Korea, with Mrs. Monaco and son has gone to Japan for a short time.

Doctor Wuusch, German physician to the Imperial Household, having completed the time for which his services were contracted, has returned to Germany.

Secretary Patten of the Young Men's Christian Association in India stopped for a little time in Korea on his way to America. As the representative of the International Committee he investigated the work of the society in Seoul and made several addresses to the members through an interpreter. Mr. and Mrs. Patten will shortly take up work in one of the large cities of Canada. While here they were guests of Secretary and Mrs. P. L. Gillett.

Rev and Mrs. Griffith, of China, spent some time in Korea as the guests of Dr. and Mrs. Avison, of the Severance Hospital. A short trip overland to Pyeng Yang presented an opportunity for obtaining a better knowledge of Korea before continuing the journey to America on turlough.

From the Foreign Department a notice has been sent to the Japanese Legation to the effect that the Korean Railway and Irrigation Bureaus have been abolished according to the new official requirements, and now the agreements with Japanese employees of the Bureaus must be cancelled at once.

All the Generals and Ministers one day recently journeyed to the Chong Choong altar and sacrificed to the memory of ancient and modern patriotic officers who devoted their lives to the service of their country.

The Foreign Department has notified the Japanese Legation that a report from the governor of South Choong Ching province concerning certain land belonging to citizens. Part was under cultivation and part was in forest, owned by wood-merchants. Now the Japanese have occupied all the above-mentioned ground, and are either building thereon or making farms, and the Koreans are scattered in all directions. A strong protest is lodged against such action, and the formal request is made that the whole proceeding be stopped at once.

The Japanese Government mint in Osaka is said to have received instructions from the Finance Department to make Korean coins as follows:

Fifty thousand yen in gold coin of twenty yen each.

One million five hundred thousand yen in silver coin worth fifty sen each.

One million five hundred thousand yen in silver coin worth twenty sen each.

Two million yen with nickel coin worth five sen each.

Two million yen with copper coin worth one sen each.

This makes a total coinage of seven million and fifty thousand yen. There is urgent need for the nickel coinage to exchange for the present Korean nickels, so the nickels will be delivered first.

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